Muhlenberg College/*Morning Call*

2012 Pennsylvania Presidential Election **Survey**

Release **Date**

September 18, **2012**

Survey **Methodology**

Number of Interviews: 640 Likely Voters in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Margin of Error: +/-4% at a 95% level of confidence

Fielding Dates – September 10– 16, 2012

Method of Interviewing: Live telephone interviewers

Method of Sampling: Pennsylvania Voter Registration Files- Individuals who voted in at least 1 of the last 8 general or primary elections in Pennsylvania OR who had registered to vote in the state since 2009.

Likely Voter Screens: (1) Currently Registered; (2) Expressed Likelihood (Q1;Q2)

Weighting: The data was weighted by gender and region of the state.

Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding

Instrument Design: Dr. Christopher P. Borick of the Muhlenberg College Institute of Public Opinion in conjunction with staff members of the *Morning Call*.

CONTACT:

Muhlenberg College Institute of Public Opinion   484-664-3066

FREQUENCY REPORT AND SURVEY INSTRUMENT

INTRODUCTION

Q1: Thank you. Which of the following categories best describes your current voting status? Are you registered as a ___? (READ LIST)

	August 2012	September 2012
Democrat	49%	**49%**
Republican	40%	**39%**
Independent	10%	**8%**
Other Party	2%	**4%**
Not Registered (END SURVEY)	Na	**Na**
Not Sure (END SURVEY)	Na	**Na**

Q2: How likely are you to vote in the midterm elections this November? Are you definitely going to vote, very likely to vote, not too likely to vote or definitely not voting in the November Election?

	August 2012	September 2012
Definitely Going to Vote	84%	**82%**
Very Likely To Vote	16%	**18%**
Very Likely To Vote (END SURVEY)	Na	**Na**
Definitely not voting (END SURVEY)	Na	**Na**
Not Sure (END SURVEY)	Na	**Na**

Q3: Next, I would like for you to rate the performance of a few political officials. For each name that I read, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of the way he is doing his job.

First, President Barack Obama?

	August 2012	September 2012
Approve	43%	**47%**
Disapprove	47%	**44%**
No Opinion	10%	**9%**

Q4: How about Governor Tom Corbett?

	August 2012	September 2012
Approve	30%	**30%**
Disapprove	46%	**46%**
No Opinion	24%	**25%**

Q5: and Senator Bob Casey Jr.?

	August 2012	**September 2012**
Approve	37%	**37%**
Disapprove	28%	**31%**
No Opinion	35%	**32%**

Q6: Now, I would like to ask your overall impression of a few political figures. For each name I read, please tell me if your impression of him is favorable or unfavorable.

First, Mitt Romney

	August 2012	**September 2012**
Favorable	37%	**40%**
Unfavorable	49%	**48%**
Neutral/Not Sure	13%	**12%**
Haven't heard of him	<1%	**<1%**

Q7: Next, Barack Obama

	August 2012	**September 2012**
Favorable	48%	**50%**
Unfavorable	45%	**42%**
Neutral/Not Sure	7%	**7%**
Haven't heard of him	0%	**<1%**

Q8: How about Joe Biden?

	August 2012	**September 2012**
Favorable	38%	**44%**
Unfavorable	45%	**42%**
Neutral/Not Sure	16%	**13%**
Haven't heard of him	1%	**1%**

Q9: and Paul Ryan?

	August 2012	**September 2012**
Favorable	34%	**37%**
Unfavorable	35%	**41%**
Neutral/Not Sure	26%	**18%**
Haven't heard of him	5%	**4%**

Q10: How about Bob Casey Jr.?

	August 2012	**September 2012**
Favorable	40%	**35%**
Unfavorable	26%	**31%**
Neutral/Not Sure	31%	**31%**
Haven't heard of him	2%	**3%**

Q11: and Tom Smith?

	August 2012	**September 2012**
Favorable	18%	**20%**
Unfavorable	13%	**18%**
Neutral/Not Sure	40%	**35%**
Haven't heard of him	30%	**27%**

Q12: Now, if the 2012 presidential election was being held today and the race was between Barack Obama and Mitt Romney who would you vote for? (OPTIONS ROTATED)

	August 2012	**September 2012**
Barack Obama	48%	**49%**
Mitt Romney	38%	**41%**
Neither/Other	6%	**5%**
Not Sure (Volunteered)	7%	**5%**

NOTE Q13 was asked only to respondents who responded "not sure" in Q12 (n =31)

Q13: Are you leaning more toward voting for Mitt Romney or Barack Obama?

	August 2012	**September 2012**
Obama	10%	**13%**
Romney	20%	**16%**
Neutral/Not Sure	70%	**71%**

PRESIDENTIAL RACE WITH LEANERS

	August 2012	**September 2012**
Barack Obama	49%	**50%**
Mitt Romney	40%	**41%**
Neither/Other	6%	**5%**
Not Sure (Volunteered)	5%	**4%**

Q14: Now, if the 2010 U.S. Senate election was being held today and the race was between Bob Casey Jr. and Tom Smith, who would you vote for?

	August 2012	**September 2012**
Bob Casey Jr	46%	**44%**
Tom Smith	28%	**30%**
Neither/Other	3%	**5%**
Not Sure (Volunteered)	24%	**21%**

NOTEQ15 was asked only to respondents who responded "not sure" in Q14 (n =134)

	August 2012	**September 2012**
Bob Casey Jr	14%	**8%**
Tom Smith	9%	**13%**
Not Sure (Volunteered)	76%	**78%**

SENATE RACE WITH LEANERS

	August 2012	**September 2012**
Bob Casey Jr	49%	**45%**
Tom Smith	30%	**33%**
Neither/Other	3%	**5%**
Not Sure (Volunteered)	18%	**18%**

Q16: If the elections for Congress were being held today, which party's candidate would you vote for? The Democratic Party's candidate or the Republican Party's candidate? (OPTIONS ROTATED)

	August 2012	**September 2012**
Democrat	44%	**46%**
Republican	35%	**39%**
Neither/Other	4%	**6%**
Not Sure (Volunteered)	17%	**9%**

Q17. Regardless of who you support in the presidential election, who do you trust more to handle the issue of Medicare, Romney or Obama?

	August 2012	September 2012
Obama	47%	**50%**
Romney	34%	**38%**
Both Equal (Volunteered)	2%	**2%**
Neither (Volunteered)	11%	**6%**
Not Sure (Volunteered)	7%	**5%**

Q18. How about handling the economy?

	August 2012	September 2012
Obama	41%	**44%**
Romney	42%	**44%**
Both Equal (Volunteered)	1%	**2%**
Neither (Volunteered)	9%	**5%**
Not Sure (Volunteered)	6%	**5%**

Q19: Which of the following best describes your vote in the 2008 Presidential election? I voted for: (READ LIST)

	August 2012	September 2012
Obama	50%	**50%**
McCain	38%	**40%**
Another Candidate	3%	**3%**
Or I did not vote in that election	7%	**4%**
Don't recall (volunteered	1%	**1%**
Not Sure (Volunteered)	1%	**1%**

Q20: Finally, I have a few questions about yourself. Which of the following categories best describes your racial identity? Are you (READ LIST)?

	August 2012	September 2012
White/Caucasian	90%	**88%**
African-American	6%	**6%**
Hispanic	1%	**2%**
Latino	<1%	**<1%**
Asian	1%	**1%**
Native American	<1%	**<1%**
Mixed race	1%	**2%**
Other	1%	**1%**

Q21: Which of the following categories best describes your religious affiliation? Are you (READ LIST)?

	August 2012	September 2012
Catholic	34%	33%
Protestant	47%	45%
Jewish	2%	3%
Muslim	1%	<1%
Hindu	<1%	<1%
Other Religions (including agnostic	13%	13%
Atheist	2%	3%
Not Sure (volunteered)	2%	2%

Q22: What is your current marital status? Are you (READ LIST)?

	August 2012	September 2012
Single	14%	16%
Married	65%	62%
Separated	1%	1%
Divorced	6%	6%
Widowed	13%	13%
Partnered	1%	1%

Q23: What is your highest level of education? (READ LIST)

	August 2012	September 2012
Less than High School	2%	1%
High School Graduate	31%	29%
Some college or technical school	24%	25%
College graduate (4 yr only)	23%	24%
or Graduate or professional degree	20%	21%

Q24: Which of the following categories best describes your family income? Is it (READ LIST)?

	August 2012	September 2012
Under $20,000	11%	13%
$20,000-$40,000	19%	20%
$40,000-$60,000	23%	20%
$60,000-$80,000	14%	14%
$80,000-$100,000	11%	11%
or Over $100,000	20%	19%
Not Sure (Volunteered)	2%	4%

Q25: Which of the following categories does your current age fall in? Is it (READ LIST)?

	August 2012	September 2012
18-34	10%	**13%**
35-50	21%	**25%**
51-64	34%	**29%**
or 65- and over	35%	**32%**

Q26: Thank you for your help with the survey. We appreciate your time. (GENDER DETERMINED BY VOICE RECOGNITION)

	August 2012	September 2012
Male	48%	**48%**
Female	52%	**52%**

REGION – CALCULATED FROM VOTER FILES

	August 2012	September 2012
Philadelphia	10%	**11%**
Suburban Phil/Lehigh Valley	24%	**24%**
Allegheny	11%	**10%**
Southwest	9%	**10%**
Remainder of State	46%	**45%**

SELECTED CROSSTABS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE
(INCLUDING LEANERS)

	Obama		Romney		Neither/Other		Not Sure	
	Aug	**Sept**	**Aug**	**Sept**	**Aug**	**Sept**	**Aug**	**Sept**
OVERALL	49%	**50%**	40%	**41%**	6%	**5%**	5%	**4%**
Democrat	78%	**84%**	13%	**10%**	5%	**4%**	4%	**2%**
Republican	14%	**11%**	75%	**84%**	4%	**3%**	6%	**2%**
Independent	50%	**38%**	35%	**35%**	5%	**10%**	10%	**16%**
Male	48%	**46%**	41%	**43%**	7%	**6%**	4%	**4%**
Female	50%	**53%**	39%	**39%**	5%	**4%**	6%	**4%**
White	46%	**46%**	43%	**45%**	6%	**5%**	5%	**4%**
Non-White	92%	**94%**	8%	**5%**	0%	**<1%**	<1%	**<1%**
College Degree	52%	**51%**	39%	**43%**	3%	**5%**	5%	**2%**
No College Degree	47%	**49%**	40%	**39%**	8%	**6%**	5%	**5%**
Under 50 Years Old	49%	**48%**	36%	**39%**	9%	**8%**	6%	**5%**
Over 50 Years Old	50%	**51%**	41%	**43%**	4%	**3%**	4%	**3%**
Voted for Obama in 2008	84%	**88%**	9%	**7%**	4%	**3%**	2%	**2%**
Catholic	53%	**50%**	39%	**44%**	5%	**4%**	2%	**2%**
Protestant	39%	**42%**	49%	**51%**	5%	**4%**	6%	**3%**